

# **Town of Middleborough**

The following bylaw was passed at the June 6, 2011, Annual Town Meeting.

## **ARTICLE 23: Community Preservation Bylaw**

### **Section 1: Establishment**

The Town of Middleborough hereby establishes a Community Preservation Committee, consisting of nine (9) voting members pursuant to MGL Chapter 44B, Section 5. The composition of the Committee, the appointing authority and the term of office for the Committee members shall be as follows:

One member of the Conservation Commission as designated by the Commission for a term of three years.

One member of the Historical Commission as designated by the Commission for a term of three years.

One member of the Housing Authority as designated by the Authority for a term of three years.

One member of the Planning Board as designated by the Board for an initial term of two years and thereafter for a term of three years.

One member of the Park Commission as designated by the Commission for an initial term of one year and thereafter for a term of three years.

Two at-large members to be appointed for a term of two years and thereafter for a term of three years.

Two at-large members to be appointed for a term of one year and thereafter for terms of three years.

The initial four at-large members shall be appointed by majority vote during a joint meeting of the statutory members of the Community Preservation Committee and the Board of Selectmen. Further, prior to this joint meeting, the Board and the Committee shall each receive the applications of interested persons and may interview the applicants. Thereafter, the appointment of at-large members shall be by majority vote during a joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen and all members of the Community Preservation Committee.

Notwithstanding the terms of office set forth above, in the event that a person no longer serves in the position or on the commission, board or authority designated above, such person shall be deemed to have vacated his or her position on the Community Preservation Committee.

Should any of the commissions or boards who have appointing authority under this Section be no longer in existence for whatever reason, the appointing authority for that commission, board or authority shall become the responsibility of the Board of Selectmen.

## Section 2: Duties

1. The Community Preservation Committee shall study the needs, possibilities and resources of the town regarding community preservation. The Committee shall consult with existing municipal boards, including but not limited to, the Board of Selectmen, the Conservation Commission, the Historical Commission, the Planning Board, the Parks Commissioners and the Housing Authority, or persons acting in those capacities or performing like duties, in conducting such studies. As part of its study, the Committee shall hold one or more public informational hearings on the needs, possibilities and resources of the Town regarding Community Preservation possibilities and resources, notice of which shall be posted publicly and published for each of two weeks preceding a hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town.
2. The Community Preservation Committee shall make recommendations to Town Meeting for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space; for the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources; for the acquisition, creation and preservation of land for recreational use; for the acquisition, creation, preservation and support of community housing; and for the rehabilitation or restoration of open space, land for recreational use and community housing that is acquired or created with Community Preservation Funds. With respect to community housing, the Community Preservation Committee shall recommend, wherever possible, the reuse of existing buildings or construction of new buildings on previously developed sites.
3. The Community Preservation Committee may include in its recommendation to the Town Meeting a recommendation to set aside, for later spending, funds for specific purposes that are consistent with Community Preservation but for which sufficient revenues are not then available in the Community Preservation Fund to accomplish that specific purpose or recommended action to set aside for later spending funds for general purposes that are consistent with community preservation.

## Section 3: Requirement for a quorum and cost estimates

The Community Preservation Committee shall not meet or conduct business without the presence of a quorum. A majority of the members of the Community Preservation Committee shall constitute a quorum. The Community Preservation Committee shall approve its actions by majority vote. Recommendations to the Town Meeting shall include their anticipated costs.

## Section 4: Amendments

This bylaw may be amended from time to time by a majority vote of the Town Meeting, provided that the amendments would not be in conflict with Chapter 44B of the Massachusetts General Laws.

#### Section 5: Severability

In case any section, paragraph or part of this by-law be for any reason declared invalid or unconstitutional by any court of last resort, every other section, paragraph or part shall continue in full force and effect.

#### Section 6: Effective Date

Following Town Meeting approval, this bylaw shall take effect under and pursuant to the procedures and requirements of General Laws Chapter 40, Section 32. Each designating and appointing authority shall have thirty days after the bylaw takes effect to make their initial appointments.